Sterne Kessler Goldstein Fox
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Robert Greene Sterne
Edward J. Kessler
Jorge A. Goldstein
David K.S. Cornwell
Robert W. Esmond
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Michele A. Cimbala
Michael B. Ray
Robert E. Sokohl
Eric K. Steffe
Michael Q. Lee
Steven R. Ludwig
John M. Covert
Linda E. Alcorn
Robert C. Millonig
Lawrence B. Bugaisky
Donald J. Featherstone
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.
Patrick E. Garrett
Jeffrey T. Helvey*
Heidi L. Kraus
Crystal D. Sayles
Edward W. Yee
Albert L. Ferro*
Donald R. Banowit
Peter A. Jackman
Molly A. McCall
Teresa U. Medler
Jeffrey S. Weaver
Kendrick P. Patterson
Vincent L. Capuano
Albert J. Fasulo II*
Eldora Ellison Floyd
Thomas C. Fiala

Brian J. Del Buono
Virgil Lee Beaston*
Kimberly N. Reddick
Theodore A. Wood
Elizabeth J. Haanes
Bruce E. Chalker
Joseph S. Ostroff
Frank R. Cottingham
Christine M. Lhulier
Rae Lynn Prengaman
Jane Shershenovich*
Lawrence J. Carroll*
George S. Bardmesser
Daniel A. Klein*
Rodney G. Maze
Jason D. Eisenberg
Michael A. Specht*
Andrea J. Kamage

Registered Patent Agents*
Karen R. Markowicz
Nancy J. Leith
Ann E. Summerfield
Helene C. Carlson
Gaby L. Longsworth
Matthew J. Dowd
Aaron L. Schwartz
Angelique G. Uy
Boris A. Matvenko
Mary B. Tung
Katrina Y. Pei
Bryan L. Skelton
Robert A. Schwartzman
John J. Figueroa
Timothy A. Doyle
Jennifer R. Mahalingappa
Jeff Lungren

Teresa Colella
Jon Wright
Victoria Rutherford
W. Brian Edgell

Senior Counsel
Samuel C. Fox
Kenneth A. Jaffe, III
Lisa A. Dunner

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February 19, 2003

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
(202) 772-8544
INTERNET ADDRESS:
MCIMBALA@SKGF.COM

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Art Unit 1652

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/621,448; Filed: July 21, 2000
For: **Methods for Producing L-Amino Acids Using a *Corynebacterium glutamicum* with a Disrupted *pgi* Gene (As Amended)**
Inventors: O'DONOHUE *et al.*
Our Ref: 1533.1010002/MAC/AGU

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.11; and
2. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Michele A. Cimbala
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 33,851

Enclosures

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
O'DONOHUE *et al.*
Appl. No. 09/621,448
Filed: July 21, 2000
For: **Methods for Producing L-Amino Acids Using a *Corynebacterium glutamicum* with a Disrupted *pgi* Gene (As Amended)**

Confirmation No.: 4431
Art Unit: 1652
Examiner: Steadman, David J.
Atty. Docket: 1533.1010002/MAC/AGU

Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated November 19, 2002 (Paper No. 19), Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

(A) A clean version of each replacement paragraph/section/claim along with clear instructions for entry;

(B) Starting on a separate page, appropriate remarks and arguments. 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 and MPEP § 714; and

(C) Starting on a separate page, a marked-up version entitled: "Version with markings to show changes made."

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of